She survived!

Local woman meets hurricane Diana

By FRANCES ABBITT

"I went for my two weeks and I rode it out!

Helen Gunter and her daughter Frances Rogers recently spent two weeks at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. It just so happened their visit coincided with Hurricane Diana's visit to the area.

Helen who is 80 years young, and her daughter, go each year to Lakewood Campground at Myrtle Beach. They stay in a trailer, owned by Frances, that is set up as a permanent residence. They enjoy the relaxed atmosphere they find at the beach late in the season. But, this year, thanks to Diana, things weren't so relaxed.

"But I wasn't going to leave!" said Helen with a smile. "I had looked forward to this vacation and I wasn't about to get cheated out of it!"

Helen and Frances arrived at the campground on the Friday before Diana came the following week. Settling in was fun, unpacking clothing, personal items, and food made them realize just how much they had looked forward to this vacation.

Helen Gunter lives with her brother Ralph H. Barlow who is confined to a wheelchair and has been responsible for his care since 1948. In order that she might have this opportunity to accompany her daughter to the beach, Helen's sister from Lynchburg came to Appomattox to be with Ralph during the time Helen would be on vacation.

Frances Rogers is office manager for Appomattox Family Practice Center, composed of Doctors A. A. Fratrick, J. A. Mathews and Kenneth Powell.

Both women love what they do, but is was time for a vacation and they anticipated an enjoyable stay, uneventful but relaxing.

On Tuesday after the women arrived on Friday, the sky turned an ugly gray, the waves began to lash out angrily at the beach and the wind tore at buildings with an intensity that was frightening. Diana had arrived.

About the middle of the morning, officials of the campground visited each trailer, informing the people of the impending danger. They were asked to evacuate. Various buildings had been designated as suitable for emergency housing. The building closest to Lakewood Campground was the Lakewood Elementary School.

Frances's trailer, being set up on a foundation that was permanent, could not be moved. So, the two crawled into their car and headed for the school.

"Occupants of Lakewood Campground were evacuated to the school, and they were so nice to us," Helen commented.

"There were more than 600 people in the school during the first evacuation. The Red Cross took care of our needs," Helen said.

The evacuees were fed, given sleeping space (on the floor) and made as comfortable as possible.

"They had cots for anyone with a heart problem or other health problem, but I didn't sleep on a cot, I got on the floor like everyone else," commented youthful 80 year old Helen who had a heart attack in 1966.

Nurses were on hand keep a watchful eye on anyone with special needs.

"The food was good," said Helen. "One day we had bar-b-que on a bun, slaw, a cup of fruit and iced tea, coffee of milk."

"On the second evacuation, (yes, there were two!), we had pizza, made in the school cafeteria, all you could eat, french fries, fruit and beverage of your choice," Helen added.

"The first time we were gone from our trailer for about eight hours, the second time we left we were gone for about 12 hours," Helen said.

The second evacuation came at 3 a.m. on Thursday morning. But, the women were more or less prepared this time. Before retiring on Wednesday evening the two had packed blankets, pillows, necessary personal items and a few other things into the car.

So, when the campground officials came driving through the area with sirens blowing and words or warning being spoken through a loudspeaker, Helen and Frances knew what was happening.

"Then men came to the doors of the trailers to be sure the occupants heard the warning to evacuate," said Helen. "When he came to our door, I assured him that we were ready to leave, we didn't need a second warning," she added.

"I don't know how I could have made it had it not been for Mama. She didn't get upset, just seemed to have a good time and make the best of everything," said Frances.

"When we were at the evacuation center, there were times I just felt like crying," Frances said. "But I looked around and nobody else was crying, they were all listening to Mama and laughing so I decided crying would be a waste of time."

Not only did Helen not cry over the interrupted vacation but she went on to have a great time once Hurricane Diana was out of the way.

Among her many interests is country music and she loves the music of Boxcar Willie. Not only did she have the opportunity of seeing and hearing Boxcar Willie, she had her picture taken with the entertainer.

"My mother had the best time," said Frances. "She always has a good time, wherever she goes. She loves people and makes friends easily."

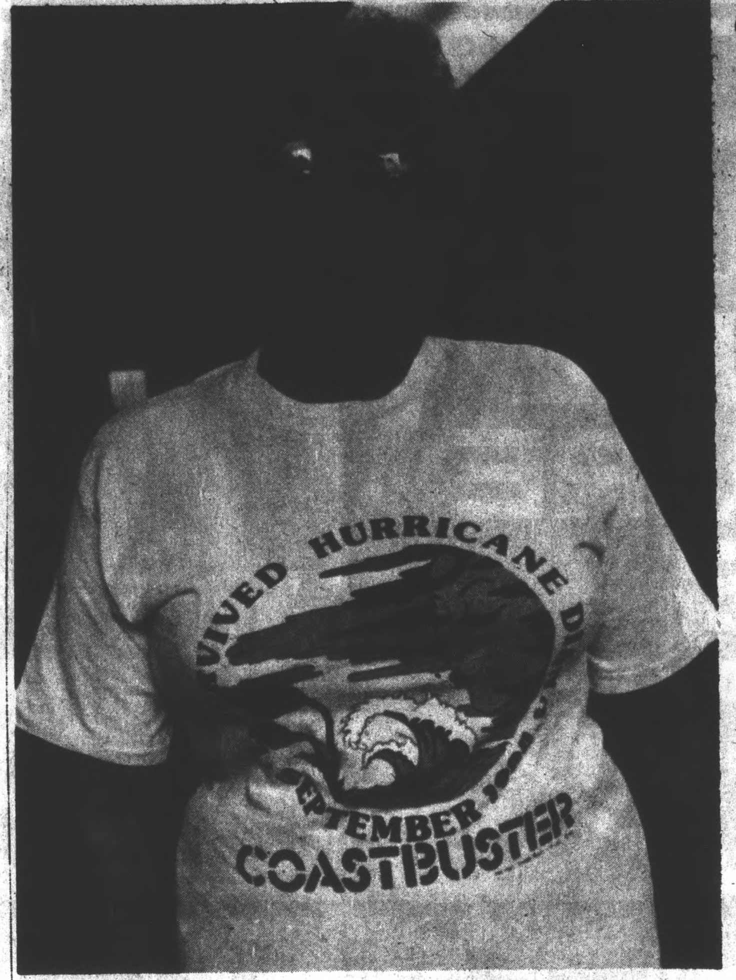
When the storm had subsided and people were free to go to their given place of residence, Helen and Frances returned to their trailer and found everything in good shape.

"Lots of branches, tree limbs, and mess, but everything fine," said Helen. "We have a lot for which to be thankful."

In her 80 years, Helen Gunter has been through a lot. Her husband died when her only child was three and with the help of her mother she reared her child and made the best of things. She worked in Lynchburg at Craddock and Terry and Blue Buckle Factory. When she moved to Appomattox in 1948 she began working at Herncall Cleaners here in town.

Helen is president of the Young Hearts Club here in the county. Maybe the total years have reached 80 but Helen's spirit and enthusiasm for life will be forever young.

So, Diana came, and Diana went, but Helen stayed and finished that vacation. It will take more than a hurricane to dampen Helen's spirit!



HELEN GUNTER shows tee-shirt she obtained after weathering hurricane Diana along the North Carolina coast.

Con$umer ene note$

Saving energy

By OCIE M. MACK
Extension Agent

"Partners for an Energy Efficient Tomorrow" is the theme for this year's American Awareness Week to be held the week of Oct. 21-28, 1984.

The observation will be highlighted by events planned and carried out by thousands of individuals and sponsoring groups across the nation.

You as an individual can become a partner in this event by planning and implementing energy conservation projects in the home that will make living space more comfortable, saving you 10 percent to 40 percent on your heating and cooling costs and conserving energy for the future.

A home that saves energy is worth more and costs less to run. By using the Home Investment Checklist, you can identify ways to reduce energy use and lower home operating costs. Then select those that you feel will provide the best return. All are the best investment choices you can make -- even better than a C.D., Money Market or savings account. You'll get your money back, you'll enjoy more comfort and the value of your house will increase.

1. **Attic Insulation**- Check to see if your attic has recommended levels of insulation for your area. If not, invest in additional insulation.

2. **Heating/Cooling System** - Clean and replace filters as needed. Close doors and vents in unused rooms. Insulate ducts and pipes in unheated spaces. When replacing, ask you contractor to show you EnergyGuide fact sheets on operating costs and select the efficient one with lower operating costs.

3. **Exterior Walls** - Consider adding insulation when remodeling or re-siding your house. Ask contractors about payback.

4. **Water Heaters** - Lower the thermostat on this big energy user. Install insulation wrap and flow restrictor shower heads and faucets. When replacing your water heater, look for the EnergyGuide label and select the efficient one with the lower operating cost.

5. **Windows and Doors** - Consider installing storm windows , doors or double-paned glass to keep in the heat and air-conditioning. Compare costs for payback.

6. **Appliances** - Fully load clothes and dishwashers. Keep refrigerator doors closed. When replacing, look for the EnergyGuide label and select the one with the lower operating costs.

7. **Floors and Foundations Walls** - Check for adequate insulation under floors, around basement, crawl space and foundation walls. Ask contractors about payback.

8. **Thermostat** - Consider a clock thermostat with automatic night setback. It will save you money. Keep temperatures at 65 degrees in winter and 5 degrees lower when sleeping or away. Higher temperatures are recommended for homes with sick, elderly or infants. Set at 78 degrees in summer.

9. **Weather stripping/caulking** - Locate air cracks around doors, windows and other openings where outside air is infiltrating into your home. Seal them with caulking or weather stripping for quick payback.

10. **Sunlight** - Let sunlight in during the winter and keep it out during the summer. Drapes, shutters, awnings, shade trees, glass with reflective film and solar screens help reduce energy costs.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
PROPOSED HIGHWAY PROJECT
ROUTE 608
Appomattox & Campbell Counties

All interested persons are advised that the State Highway and Transportation Commission of Virginia is hereby indicating its willingness to hold a Combined Location and Design Public Hearing concerning the proposed improvement of Route 608 from the intersection of Route 460 to 0.09 mile north of Route 609, in Campbell and Appomattox Counties.

Maps, drawings, and environmental evaluation, and other information concerning the proposed project are available for public review and copying in the Department of Highways and Transportation's District Office located on Route 501 just south of Route 460 in Lynchburg and in its Residency Office located On Route 1003 (Ferguson Street) just east of the N&W Railway Overpass in Appomattox.

Any interested citizen from the counties affected by this proposal may request that a Public Hearing be held by sending a written request to Mr. T.E. Pittman, Resident Engineer, Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation, P.O. Box 249, Appomattox, Virginia 24522, on or before October 26, 1984. In the event such a request is received, a further notice of the time and place of the hearing will be posted.

State Highway and Transportation Commission of Virginia

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The South 40

Now is the time to fertilize

By JAMES A. SMITH
Extension Agent

October is the best month to fertilize lawns. Don't wait till spring-fall fertilization helps to build root reserves for next year. Apply 15 pounds 10-10-10 per 1000 square feet of lawn.

How long should lawns be mowed? Just as long as they grow. You don't want to go into winter with long grass that mats, which injures the stand.

Don't be surprised to see yews, pines, arborvite and juniper shed their innermost needles. It is natural for them to do so at this time of year.

If you are a volunteer and most people are; you can take a tax deduction for mileage. There are two changes effective January 1, 1985. The allowable federal mileage rate is now 12 cents per mile; the allowable state mileage rate is 18 cents per mile. When filing for these deductions, the first 12 cents should be claimed on the federal form, and the remaining 6 cents per mile on the state form.

There are now 1315 acres of wine grapes in Virginia and 26 licensed estate wineries.

The media gives us stories about adultration of food with chemicals, often in parts per billion. To help understand what this means: One part per billion (ppb) =

1 penny in $10,000,000
1 sq. ft. in 36 sq. miles
1 pinch of salt in 10 tons of potato chips
1 inch in a 16,000 mile trip

A recent report from the Netherlands says that methyl bromide may be carcinogenic. Great Lakes Chemical estimates that a 150 pound person would have to eat 748,889 loaves of bread containing 10 ppb methyl bromide in order to consume the dose believed to produce carcinogenic effects in rats.

If you are involved in the business of harvesting and moving timber products, there will be a 2-hour program on Thursday, Oct. 18, at Maudes Restaurant. A "Dutch-treat" dinner from 6 to 7 p.m. will preceed the program. A movie from CAT "How to Make it as a Logger." An explanation of the timber harvesting sales tax ememption. Updates on legislative issues affecting loggers and a short discussion on record-keeping to determine logging costs.

Many gardeners plant carrots. A new one, "A Plus," contains 76 percent more carotene than the most widely grown commercial variety. The body converts carotene to vitamin A. Seed for the new variety are being made this year, so watch for "A Plus" for spring planting.

At the first Lynchburg Calf Sale, Sept. 27, there were 1140 steers with an average weight of 563 pounds and brought an average of $66.35 per CWT. There were 463 heifers weighing 496 pounds that brought $52.44.

Steer prices are up $4 over a year ago and heifer prices are up about $5.

Soil samples for the Predictive Nematode Assay need to be pulled just as soon as you determine which fields will be used for the '85 tobacco crop.

The program for Southside Virginia No-Till Day, Oct. 17, will be held at the Main Post Theater at Camp Pickett in Blackstone, Va. There will be adequate signs directing you to the site. We do need to know how many plan to attend in order to arrange for lunch by Friday, Oct. 12. Call 352-8244. There is no cost for lunch.

TC PEGGY LEE 3001 was presented the grand champion female banner at the 1984 Kansas State Fair Angus Show, Hutchinson, by judge Bill Conley, Clarksdale, Missouri. First named the junior winner, she is owned by Sterner and Uden, Franklin, Nebraska; Northcote Farm, Forest, Virginia; and Kyanite Farms, Madisonville, Virginia. A total of 87 Angus were exhibited. Photo by American Angus Association.

Happiness is 4-H

By FRANK H. SWEET
Extension Agent

The first fall week in October of each year is designated as National 4-H Week and a time to encourage participation in 4-H programs and activities. 4-H clubs, programs, and activities are open to all young people ages 9 - 19 without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or handicap. Many adults help with 4-H programs as volunteer leaders, project leaders and activity leaders.

4-H work is conducted through the Cooperative Extension Service which was established in 1914 with the Smith-Lever Act. Cooperative Extension work is coordinated through the U. S. Department of Agriculture, State Land-Grant Universities, and the various counties. Many businesses and civic organizations provide financial support for 4-H programs and activities. The overall goal of 4-H is to assist young people in obtaining knowledge, skills, leadership abilities and forming attitudes that will help them become productive members of society.

More than 80 countries have youth programs similar to 4-H with an enrollment of almost 5 million youth. In the United States more than 4 million young people were involved in 4-H in 1983 with an additional half million volunteer leaders.

There are 750 4-H members in Appomattox County involved in 23 school 4-H clubs and six community 4-H groups. If you or your family would like to become involved in 4-H please call the Appomattox Extension Office at 352-8244.

More than 80 4-H officers participated in the officer training session last week at Appomattox Elementary School. Officers were trained in the techniques required to complete their duties during the year. Special thanks are extended to the following 4-H Teen Leaders who assisted with the officer training: Bob Poole, Berri Anderson, Beth Marston, Marvin Hamlett, James Cash, Nancy Cole and Martha Haley.

New 4-H officers were elected for the ACHS 4-H Club last week. They are: President, Jeannice Bartelt; Vice President, William Curd; Secretary, Subrina Watts and Reporter, Tony Watkins.

4-H members at AES will be selecting their individual 4-H projects next week. We encourage 4-H parents to assist their children with project selection by suggesting suitable projects. Family involvement in 4-H activities and project work can make the experience more meaningful for the young person involved.

The American Cancer Society Bike-A-Thon will be held Sunday afternoon, October 21, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Watch next week's **Times-Virginian** for a map of the location for the Bike-A-Thon. Adults are encouraged to ride as well as the young people. Fifty percent of all funds raised will stay in Appomattox for use with cancer patients here!

Shoplifting seminar set

Did you know that one person in ten is a shoplifter? That losses to a business may range up to 5 percent of total sales? This is enough to cancel profits of many stores.

The Distributive Education Department of Appomattox County High School is offering a seminar on shoplifting prevention to local store owners, managers, and employees.

This seminar will examine causes for the upsurge in shoplifting, the seriousness of current losses to shoplifters, methods used by shoplifters, the legal aspects of shoplifting, and local law enforcement policies and procedures in handling shoplifting cases.

The class will be held on Monday, Oct. 16 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Room 305 of Appomattox County High School. The registration fee will be $3 and advance registration is requested to prevent unnecessary cancellation of this class.

To register, please send checks made payable to Appomattox County High School to Donna Roush, Appomattox County High School, Appomattox, Va., 24522, or call Miss Roush at 353-5317.

Computer classes scheduled

Two classes using microcomputers for adults will begin Tuesday, Oct. 23 in Room 301 at Appomattox County High School.

Courses to be offered are as follows:

Word Processing - A course designed to develop skills and concepts in a modern office using computers. Editing, letter styles, manuscripts, envelopes, memos and tabulation will receive attention using machine language. Length of course: 20 hours or 5 weeks. Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 5:15 - 7:00 p.m. Cost: $25.00 including materials.

Computer Literacy - A course developed to cover the proper care of a microcomputer and diskettes. Fundamentals of BASIC programming will be introduced. Length of course: 20 hours or 5 weeks. Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 7:15 - 9:00 p.m. Cost: $25.00 including materials.

Persons desiring to enroll in either of these classes are requested to contact the School Board Office at 352-8253 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. The maximum number to be enrolled in each of the classes will be 15. Spaces will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. If more persons than the allotted spaces enroll, the persons registering will be designated as alternates and will be notified if a vacancy occurs.

"Computer instruction is a very popular class at this time and everything possible will be done to accomodate as many persons as possible," states Richard B. Carter, director of vocational education for Appomattox County

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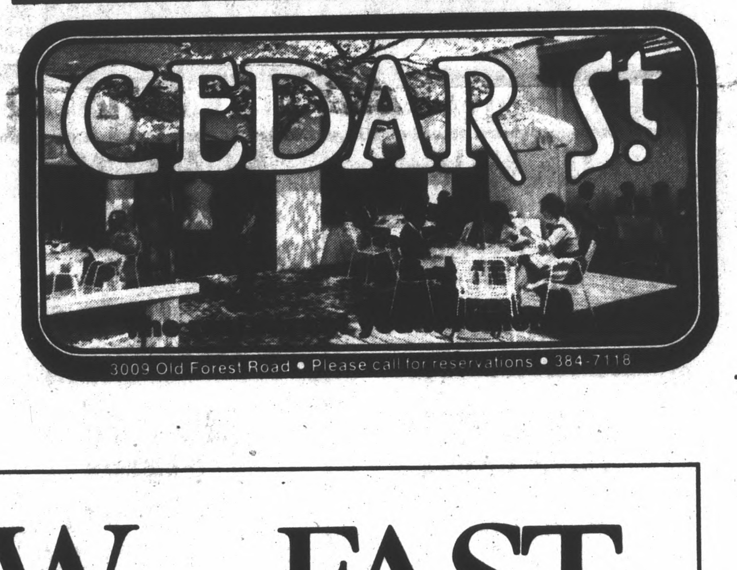

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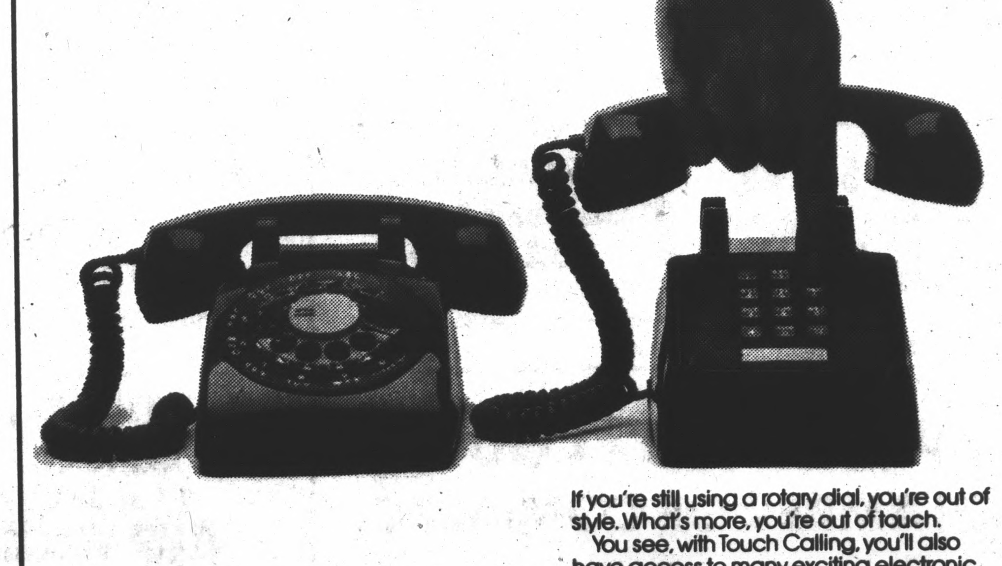

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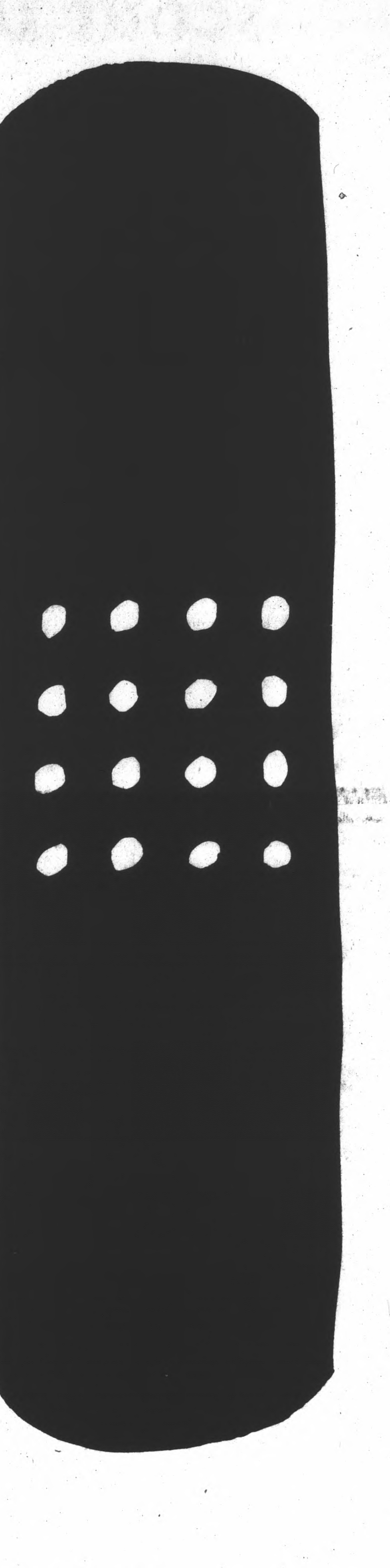

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